

virus.

2. (Original) The chimeric virus of claim 1, wherein said second flavivirus is a Japanese Encephalitis (JE) virus.

3 and 4. (Canceled).

5. (Withdrawn) The chimeric virus of claim 1, wherein said second flavivirus is selected from the group consisting of a Murray Valley Encephalitis virus, a St. Louis Encephalitis virus, a West Nile virus, a Tick-borne Encephalitis virus (i.e., a Central European Encephalitis virus or a Russian Spring-Summer Encephalitis virus), a Hepatitis C virus, a Kunjin virus, a Powassan virus, a Kyasanur Forest Disease virus, and an Omsk Hemorrhagic Fever virus.

6. (Original) The chimeric virus of claim 1, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the prM-E protein of said second, different flavivirus replaces the nucleotide sequence encoding the prM-E protein of said yellow fever virus.

7. (Original) The chimeric virus of claim 1, wherein said nucleotide sequence encoding said prM-E protein of said second, different flavivirus comprises a mutation that prevents prM cleavage to produce M protein.

8. (Original) The chimeric virus of claim 1, wherein the NS2B-3 protease recognition site and the signal sequences and cleavage sites at the C/prM and E/NS1 junctions are maintained in construction of said chimeric flavivirus.

9. (Previously Presented) A method of preventing or treating Japanese encephalitis virus infection in a patient, said method comprising administering to said patient a chimeric, live, infectious, attenuated virus comprising:

a yellow fever virus in which the nucleotide sequence encoding a prM-E protein is either deleted, truncated, or mutated so that functional yellow fever virus prM-E protein is not expressed, and

integrated into the genome of said yellow fever virus, a nucleotide sequence encoding a prM-E protein of Japanese encephalitis virus strain SA-14-14-2 or Japanese encephalitis virus strain Nakayama, wherein the capsid protein of said chimeric virus is from yellow fever virus.

10-13. (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the prM-E protein of said Japanese encephalitis virus replaces the nucleotide sequence encoding the prM-E protein of said yellow fever virus.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein said nucleotide sequence encoding said prM-E protein of said Japanese encephalitis virus comprises a mutation that prevents prM cleavage to produce M protein.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the NS2B-3 protease recognition site and the signal sequences and cleavage sites at the C/prM and E/NS1 junctions are maintained in construction of said chimeric flavivirus.

17-29. (Canceled).